

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claims 1 - 5 (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The boot liner according to claim 13, wherein said first and second banana-shaped pads are formed of a polyurethane material.

7. (Previously Presented) The boot liner according to claim 26, wherein each of said first and second banana-shaped pads has a height of approximately 70 millimeters and a length of approximately 70 millimeters.

8. (Previously Presented) A boot liner comprising:  
a sole portion; and  
an upper portion having a foot section fixedly coupled to said sole portion, an ankle section extending upwardly from said foot section and a leg section extending upwardly from said ankle section, said upper portion including a thermoformable layer located on an inner side and an outer side of said ankle section, a first banana-shaped pad located in said outer side of said ankle section, and a second banana-shaped pad located in said inner side of said ankle section,  
said upper portion including a tightening device fixed thereto with a first strap portion overlying a part of said first banana-shaped pad and a second strap portion overlying a part of said second banana-shaped pad,  
said first and second banana-shaped pads being configured and arranged to support an ankle joint of a wearer of said boot liner at bottom and rearward sides of the ankle joint of the wearer.

9. (Currently Amended) The boot liner according to claim 13, wherein said thermoformable layer further extends along said foot section.

10. (Previously Presented) The boot liner according to claim 9, wherein said thermoformable layer further extends along said leg section
11. (Previously Presented) The boot liner according to claim 10, wherein said upper portion includes a foam layer disposed on an interiorly facing side of said thermoformable layer.
12. (Previously Presented) The boot liner according to claim 11, wherein said upper portion includes an outer layer disposed on an exteriorly facing side of said thermoformable layer.
13. (Currently Amended) ~~The A boot liner according to claim 1, wherein~~  
comprising:  
a sole portion; and  
an upper portion having a foot section fixedly coupled to said sole portion, an ankle section extending upwardly from said foot section and a leg section extending upwardly from said ankle section, said upper portion including a thermoformable layer located on an inner side and an outer side of said ankle section, a first banana-shaped pad located in said outer side of said ankle section, and a second banana-shaped pad located in said inner side of said ankle section, said first and second banana-shaped pads being constructed of a different material than said thermoformable layer,  
each of said first and second banana-shaped pads being thicker than said thermoformable layer of said ankle section and extending laterally towards each other relative to said thermoformable layer of said ankle section,  
said first and second banana-shaped pads being configured and arranged to support an ankle joint of a wearer of said boot liner at bottom and rearward sides of the ankle joint of the wearer, and  
said upper portion ~~includes~~ including an inner layer disposed on an interiorly facing side of said thermoformable layer with said first and second banana-shaped pads located between said thermoformable layer and said inner layer.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The boot liner according to claim 8, wherein said first and second banana-shaped pads are formed of a polyurethane material.
16. (Previously Presented) The boot liner according to claim 27, wherein each of said first and second banana-shaped pads has a height of approximately 70 millimeters and a length of approximately 70 millimeters.
17. (Currently Amended) The boot liner according to claim 13, wherein said sole portion is a separate member that is coupled to said foot section of said upper portion.
18. (Previously Presented) The boot liner according to claim 17, wherein said sole portion is constructed of at least one flexible material.
19. (Currently Amended) The boot liner according to claim 13, wherein said sole portion includes an outer sole section that is fixedly coupled to said foot section of said upper portion.
20. (Original) The boot liner according to claim 19, wherein said outer sole section of said sole portion includes an exterior layer of a polyvinyl chloride material.
21. (Original) The boot liner according to claim 20, wherein said outer sole section of said sole portion further includes an interior thermoformable layer.
22. (Original) The boot liner according to claim 21, wherein said sole portion further includes an inner sole section that overlies said outer sole section of said sole portion.
23. (Currently Amended) The boot liner according to claim 13, wherein

said sole portion further includes ~~an~~ a thermoformable layer.

24. (Currently Amended) The boot liner according to claim ~~4~~ 23, wherein said upper portion includes a tongue portion coupled to said upper portion and arranged to span a longitudinal slit formed in said leg section, and a tightening device coupled to said upper portion for drawing opposite lateral sides of said upper portion that define said slit towards one another.

25. (Previously Presented) The boot liner according to claim 19, wherein said tightening device includes a first strap portion overlying a part of said first banana-shaped pad and a second strap portion overlying a part of said second banana-shaped pad.

26. (Currently Amended) The boot liner according to claim 13, wherein each of said first and second banana-shaped pads has a maximum vertical height and a maximum horizontal width that is approximately equal to said maximum vertical height to cradle the ankle bone of the wearer.

27. (Previously Presented) The boot liner according to claim 8, wherein each of said first and second banana-shaped pads has a maximum vertical height and a maximum horizontal width that is approximately equal to said maximum vertical height to cradle the ankle bone of the wearer.

28. (Currently Amended) ~~The A boot liner according to claim 1, wherein~~  
comprising:

a sole portion; and

an upper portion having a foot section fixedly coupled to said sole portion, an ankle section extending upwardly from said foot section and a leg section extending upwardly from said ankle section, said upper portion including a thermoformable layer located on an inner side and an outer side of said ankle section, a first banana-shaped pad located in said outer side of said ankle section, and a second banana-shaped pad located in said inner side of said

ankle section, said first and second banana-shaped pads being constructed of a different material than said thermoformable layer,

each of said first and second banana-shaped pads being thicker than said thermoformable layer of said ankle section and extending laterally towards each other relative to said thermoformable layer of said ankle section,

said first and second banana-shaped pads being configured and arranged to support an ankle joint of a wearer of said boot liner at bottom and rearward sides of the ankle joint of the wearer, and

said upper portion ~~includes~~ including a tightening device fixed thereto with a first strap portion overlying a part of said first banana-shaped pad and a second strap portion overlying a part of said second banana-shaped pad.